BOARD OF REVIEW DECISION

Title of publication: Good Boys

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 1900349.000

Medium: Film

Distributor: Universal Pictures - Lambwoo Ltd

Director: Gene Stupnitsky

Producer: Lee Eisenberg
et al.

Country of origin: United States

Language: English

Applicant: Deearn Strawbridge

Classification:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 13 years.

Excisions: No excisions recommended

Descriptive note: Frequent offensive language, sexual material and drug use

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 16 December 2019

Date of direction to issue a label: No direction to issue a label has been issued

Date of notice of decision: 13 December 2019

	Components	**Running time**
Feature(s):	Good Boys	89:40
Total running time:		89:40

Summary of reasons for decision:

This was a review by the Board under section 52 of the Films, Videos and Publications Classification Act 1993 (the Act).

The review was in response to an application by a member of the public who did not agree with a decision of the Office of Film and Literature Classification (the Classification Office) dated 3 September 2019.

The publication at issue is a 90-minute movie entitled Good Boys (the movie).

In its decision, the Classification Office classified the movie as objectionable except if its availability is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 13 years.

The applicant was granted leave by the Secretary of Internal Affairs to request a Board review of the movie.

After reading submissions from the applicant and the Classification Office and viewing the movie, the Board has determined that the movie should be classified as objectionable except if its availability is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 13 years.

The movie in a humorous manner portrays the coming-of-age trials and tribulations of 3 'tweenage' boys. The humour in large part derives from the innocence of the boys. Such innocence is likely to be recognised by viewers of and over the age of 13 years, but not by viewers of the same age as the boys portrayed or younger.

Although there are sexual themes throughout the movie, they are presented in a socially responsible manner, and not intended to be titillating. The importance of consent to any sexual activity is emphasised. Likewise, where the procurement of illicit drugs is shown, the underlying messaging is that of disapproval. The movie demonstrates the importance of sound personal identity and integrity.

The Board decided that the movie is objectionable to the extent that viewers younger than 13 years would likely fail to fully appreciate its pro-social messaging and be injuriously affected by the sexual and criminal content due to their inability to properly evaluate it.

On the other hand, the Board decided that the availability of the movie to those from and over the age of 13 years is not harmful to the public good, as such persons will appreciate that the movie does not endorse what is humorously portrayed.